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SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/15/2018  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [JO](#)  
SUBJECT: KOSOVO DEMARCHE: JORDAN REMAINS APPREHENSIVE  
ABOUT RECOGNITION

REF: STATE 127443

Classified By: Ambassador R. Stephen Beecroft for  
reasons 1.4 b and d

(C) Ambassador delivered on December 14 reftel demarche to Jordan's Foreign Minister Salah al-Bashir, who listened closely but expressed continued reluctance to recognize Kosovo, citing concerns about breaking ranks with the Arab consensus and alienating Russia. The Ambassador cited recognition by the UAE as proof of the lack of Arab consensus on the issue and noted that Jordan had little to fear from any Russian retaliation, which was unlikely in any event. He also emphasized it was in Jordan's interest to act early on the matter, when it could get credit for its action and play a leading role in the region. The Ambassador will follow up by delivering the demarche to the Chief of the Royal Court and King's senior advisor, Prince Ghazi.

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Beecroft